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the subject of sound money. As a study of the formation of opinion on one question it is very suggestive. Comparative studies of other economic questions might give valuable contributions to psychology as well as to economics.

CAROLINE M. HILL.

CHICAGO.

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*Die reichsstädtische Haushaltung Nürnbergs. Dargestellt auf Grund ihres Zustandes von 1431 bis 1440.* By PAUL SANDER. Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1903. 8vo, pp. xxx+938.

*Nürnberger Ratverlässe über Kunst und Künstler im Zeitalter der Spätgotik und Renaissance (1449 1618). Quellen-schriften für Kunstgeschichte und Kunsttechnik des Mittel-alter und der Neuzeit.* Neue Folge, XI-XIII. Band. By TH. HAMPE. Wien: Karl Graser & Co.; Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1904. 8vo; 3 vols., pp. xxxiv+618, 541, and vi+137.

Municipal finances and municipal accounting are subjects which during the last decade have attracted the ever-increasing attention of almost all students interested in municipal affairs, and every new publication which enhances our knowledge in this regard commands interest.

As the title indicates, Sander devotes the larger part of his book to a description of the finances of Nuremberg in the years 1431-40. It may, at first sight, surprise that our author devotes so much space to the description of the financial administration of a city, at that time of 20,000 inhabitants, for so short a period as a decade. But it should be remembered that Nuremberg, with its 20,000 inhabitants, was one of the most important commercial, manufacturing, and intellectual centers of Europe, and that, moreover, the municipal council exercised as much power over the city and its surroundings as the ruler of any of the other states constituting the German Empire. The variety of the financial interests and transactions of the municipal government of Nuremberg was, indeed, much greater than it is nowadays in cities of similar or even considerably larger size. If Sander then really wanted to fulfil his aim of making a thorough systematical analysis of the financial administration of Nuremberg for one period, he had

to restrict himself to a comparatively short time, and this restriction, indeed, is the basis of the success of Sander's work. It enabled him to reach absolute completeness for the decade in question, and as a consequence we are today perhaps better informed of the financial system and the financial operations of Nuremberg in the years 1431-40 than we are of any other city for any other decade; and we are certainly better prepared to study municipal accounting and municipal finances in any country at any period than we were before the appearance of Sander's book.

While Sander in laying his main stress upon the period from 1431 to 1440 shows us the free city of Nuremberg at the highest point of its economic and intellectual development, the collection of decrees of the municipal council edited by Theodor Hampe starts shortly after that decade and leads us down to the time of depression in the Thirty Years' War. These decrees are contained in a series of more than two thousand small volumes mostly written in a very bad and negligent hand, and the task of Hampe would have been a tremendous one even had he not accompanied the original text with numerous notes which show his close familiarity with the other unprinted and printed material on the subject. A short introduction on this literature and very careful indexes enhance the value of his work.

The abundance of information which the student of economics can derive from this collection is still more surprising in view of its title than in the case of Sander's work. The distinctions between arts, artistic handicrafts, and simple handicrafts were so vague in old Nuremberg that Hampe necessarily desisted from drawing a sharp line between them and included several thousand decrees which in fact pertain to the relations between the municipal council and the handworking industries.

R. R. KUCZYNSKI.

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## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS RECEIVED

Bigelow, Melville M., and others. *Centralization and the Law: Scientific Legal Education: An Illustration*. [Six lectures. By M. M. Bigelow, Brooks Adams, E. A. Harriman and H. S. Haines.] Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1906, 12mo, pp. xvii+296. \$1.50 net.

Cox, Isaac Joslin, Editor. *The Journeys of René Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle*. 1668-1687. [As related by himself and his followers.] Two vols. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1905. 12mo, pp. xxix+298, vi+259. \$2.00 net.